

# TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

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The Rev. Nancy Rottman, Pastor

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*We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church*

June 2022

Dear Centre Church,

It has been seventeen years since Centre Church became an Opening and Affirming congregation! Seventeen years of intentionally widening the welcome to ALL and leading the way in being the faith community at the center of Lynnfield that is open to everyone from Lynnfield and beyond. Is that it? Is that all there is to being an ONA congregation? Of course not. We have new opportunities to live out God's love and belonging for all every day. Sometimes we get it right and sometimes we fall down. But there is always an opportunity for grace, forgiveness, and more love. As our community and the world are ever changing – sometimes for good, and sometimes toward evil – we are challenged to evolve within our identity as an ONA faith community. This year, that opportunity will manifest right outside our doors. On Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 pm, our mission partners from Lynnfield for Love along with the GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) at both LHS and LMS have organized Lynnfield's first PRIDE celebration which will be held on the Common. I have been asked to speak at this event. This is an opportunity for Centre Church to lead the way in welcoming and allyship in our public lives. It is a chance to stand fully in OUR identity as an ONA congregation for our community. We are the only fully welcoming faith community in Lynnfield. Here's our opportunity to wear that with PRIDE! Hope to see you there.

LOVE,

Rev. Nancy



## **Lynnfield Pride Celebration ~ June 4<sup>th</sup> 4-6 pm**

Celebrate and support our LGBTQ neighbors on the Town Common with music, rainbow crafts, selfie station, vendor stands, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, refreshments and more.

## **Race Amity Day June 12th 11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Grab your picnic basket and head down to the Town Common to celebrate friendship across cultures and race with games, crafts, face painting, the Library's Book Nook, scavenger hunt and a story walk.

## **Juneteenth Opal Lee Walk June 18th 10:30 am – 12pm**

Join us as we learn together and walk in solidarity from Lynnfield Middle School to the Meeting House to pay tribute to Opal Lee, the Grandmother of Juneteenth. A small ceremony will follow on the Town Common.



## FAITH FORMATION NEWS



### Generous Giving: An Illustrated Devotional

The children enjoyed following the Generous Giving Illustrated Devotional through this giving season. We had our last Church School lesson using this wonderful resource on Sunday, May 29th. Thank you all for all of the ways that you give so generously to YOUR church! You give your time, your talent, and your treasure! You also give us the gift of bringing your children to worship with this community, to fellowship with this community and to grow with this community --- we are blessed! May we all be more generous, more open, more loving, and more kind! It is my prayer that each of the gifts we give, no matter how big or small, will further the work of justice in our world.

### Children's Sunday is June 12th!

What is Children's Sunday? We are so glad you asked! Children's Sunday is a Sunday in June that we set aside each year to celebrate the children of our church in word, song, and deed in the worship service itself. Children take part in the service, and it is an opportunity for them to learn while doing! It is a culminating event in our Church School year! We also celebrate all of the wonderful people who make the Children's Programming at Centre Church possible, including our teachers and Faith Formation Ministry Team. Please mark June 12th in your calendars and plan to join us!

Would your child like to.....

- Pass out bulletins w/deacons?
- Read or write a prayer?
- Read Scripture?
- Take part in the Godly Play Story?
- Light a candle?
- Tell the story of their baptism?

We will practice for Youth Sunday during our Church School Time on June 5th!

## Youth Group

Our next Youth Group meeting will be held on June 5th from 5 - 6:30! Bring a game and a snack to share! Pizza and drinks will be provided. Let's have a great last meeting and plan for next year!

### Sundaes on Sunday June 12th



Please join us after worship on Sunday, June 12th for our ice cream social. We will have a sundae bar with all the fixings! See you there!

### Summer Sundays

Faith Formation Ministry Team is still discerning which materials we might like to use this summer! We will offer care for all children each week, so stay tuned for what that will look like!

### Flea Market and Bake Sale



Thank you to all those who donated items to the flea market, baked treats for the bake table, and volunteered to help on May 14. What a great team! The event raised \$1176.50 for the ministry of Centre Church. *Chuck and Debbie Cotting*



Dear Centre Church,  
Many thanks for the meals, goodies, cards, flowers, calls, and visits while I was recuperating after my recent foot surgery. George especially liked the meals since he did not have to cook on those nights!!! The chocolate items were also a big hit. Due to your loving care, I am now ready to go for the spring and summer to come. Blessings for sharing and caring with us.

*Perry Hayden*



### Because Everyone Needs

Please join this year's Stewardship campaign by returning your pledge card as soon as possible. Our financial commitment is needed to support the mission and ministry of Centre Church. If you would like to fulfill your pledge online, please check the appropriate box on your pledge card. Then visit [www.centre-church.org](http://www.centre-church.org) and click on the "Online Giving" button. If you are already giving online and wish to increase your pledge, visit the online giving portal after July 1 to make the adjustment to your pledge. If you need a pledge card or have any questions, please contact Debbie Cotting at [Cottingfamily@comcast.net](mailto:Cottingfamily@comcast.net).

Blessings,

Debbie Cotting and Katie Swayne-Gerrish,  
Stewardship Ministries

### The Great Pie Challenge



Thank you to everyone who helped make The Great Pie Challenge a success! Congratulations to our winners!

**FIRST PLACE** ~ Aiden Wilson's Smores Pie

**SECOND PLACE**~ Laurel Caputo's Pecan Pie

**THIRD PLACE ( TIED )**

William DiGiorgio's Chocolate Oreo Pie  
Nancy Lauzon's Peaches & Cream Pie

Who will be the winner at the next Great Pie Challenge?



### The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Centre Church Golf Tournament

is coming up on *Monday June 27<sup>th</sup>* at Thomson Golf Club in North Reading. This will be a BEST BALL tournament with a shot gun start time of 1:00 pm sharp. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm. There will be raffle prizes, golf ball prizes, and the chance to have your winning team's name engraved on "The Unholy Grail." Players of all skill levels are welcomed! The cost is \$125 per player which covers the cost of prizes, green fees, carts, and goody bags. This event will enhance the operating budget and help to support the ministries of the Centre Church!! Last day to register is June 13<sup>th</sup>! See you there!



### CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Baylee Priestley and Craig Blanchette on their marriage May 29<sup>th</sup> 2022~ Baylee is the daughter of Bob & Lauri Priestley.

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

The Special Meeting of the church will be held  
on Sunday, June 19, 2022 at 11:10 a.m.  
to discuss the following items:

1. Presentation and Approval of the 2022 to 2023 Temporary Operating Budget
2. Term extension of Officers, Ministry Team Chairs, and Other Positions

Bruce Weaver, Moderator

***Our Opportunities***

Sat Jun 4	4-6 pm	Lynnfield Pride Day
Sun. Jun 5	10:00 am 11:00 am 5-6:30 pm	Morning Worship– Sanctuary Fellowship Youth Group Meeting (w/pizza!)
Thur Jun 9	1:00 pm	Bible Study ~ Fireside Room
Sun. Jun 12	10:00 am  11-12 pm 11:30-1:30	Morning Worship – Sanctuary Children’s Sunday Baptism Ava Yagjian Ice Cream Sundaes Race Amity Day ~ Lynnfield Common
Thur Jun 16	1:00 pm	Bible Study ~ Fireside Room
Sat Jun 18	10:30-12 11:00 – 2:00	Juneteenth Opal Lee Walk ~ Gather at LMS Kathy Dixon’s Retirement Party
Sun Jun 19	10:00 am 11:00 am	Morning Worship ~ Sanctuary Congregational Meeting
Thur Jun 23		** No Bible Study today
Sat Jun 25	11:00 am	Memorial service for Michael Klapes ~ Chapel
Sun Jun 26	10:00 am 11:00 am	Morning Worship ~ Sanctuary Fellowship
Mon Jun 27	12:30 pm	Golf Tournament Fundraiser The Thomson Club ~ North Reading

**Office Hours – 9am – 3pm**

**Tower Day School ~ closed for summer on 6/10**